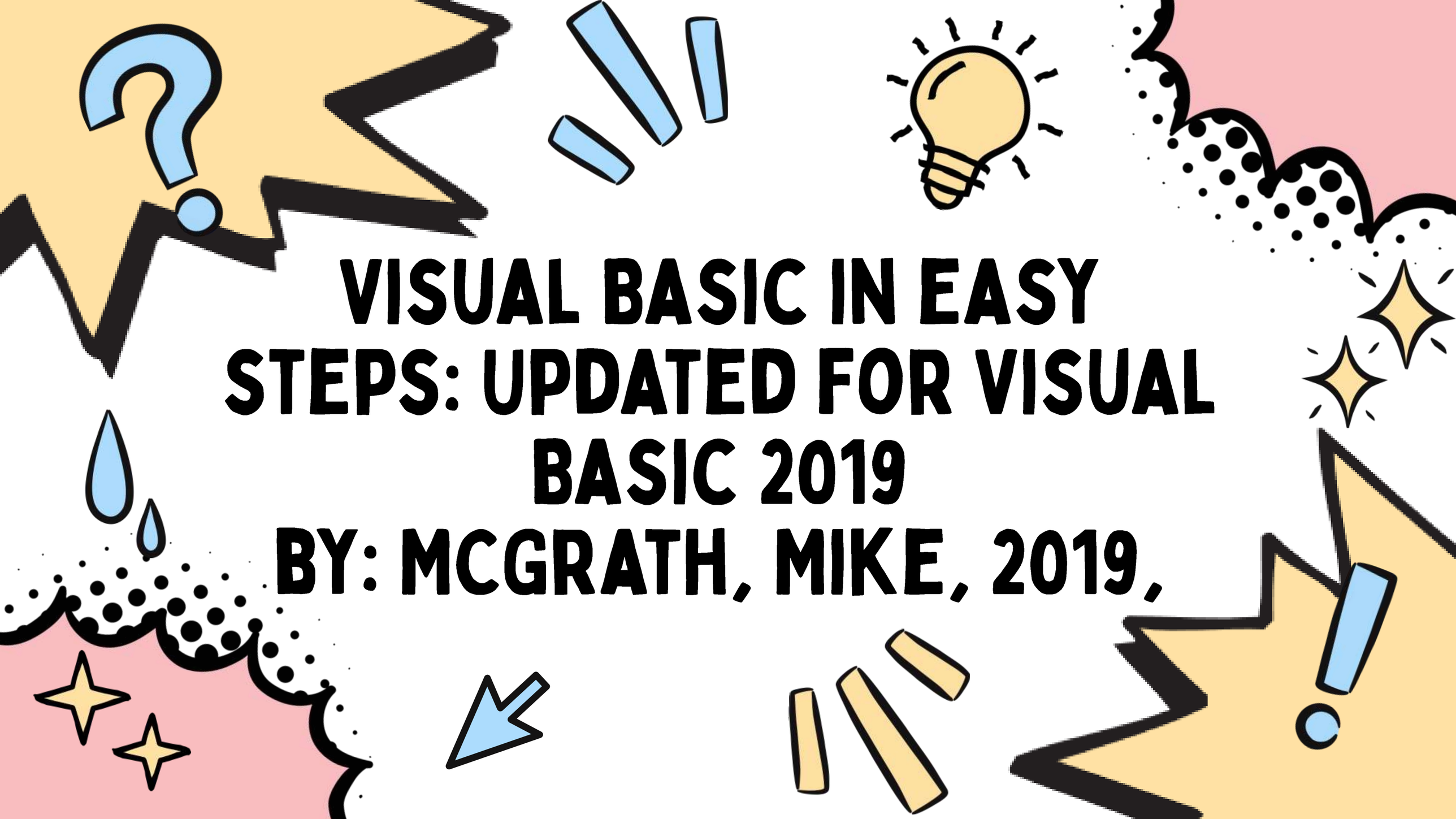

VISUAL BASIC IN EASY STEPS: UPDATED FOR VISUAL BASIC 2019

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AN INTRODUCTION

The introduction of Mike McGrath's "Visual Basic in Easy Steps" for Visual Basic (VB) 2019 offers an overview of VB's history, its importance, and the setup process for the development environment. McGrath highlights the evolution of VB, its integration with .NET, and its beginner-friendly design. He emphasizes its suitability for building Windows applications and automating tasks, making it a useful resource for programmers of all skill levels.

KEY WORDS

•Visual Basic (VB) – quite simply the best programming language for the novice or hobbyist to begin creating their own standalone Windows applications, fast.

• Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) – an implementation of Visual Basic that is built into all Microsoft Office applications. It runs within a host, rather than as a standalone application.

• Visual Basic Script (VBScript) – a derivative of Visual Basic that can be used for Windows scripting.

KEY ASPECT

A key aspect of this chapter is the step-by-step guide to installing Visual Studio 2019, the IDE for writing and running Visual Basic programs. McGrath provides clear instructions on downloading, selecting the VB workload, and configuring settings to ensure a smooth setup. He also introduces essential IDE components like Solution Explorer for managing project files, the Toolbox for drag-and-drop UI design, and the Properties window for customizing controls. With these foundational tools, beginners can easily navigate the environment and start building their own Visual Basic applications.

CONCLUSION

Chapter 1 of "Visual Basic in Easy Steps" is a comprehensive starting point for new users. It covers the essentials of Visual Basic, providing a clear understanding of the basics. The setup process for the development environment is also thoroughly explained. Experienced programmers might find the content too elementary, but beginners will find value in the structured approach and easy-to-grasp explanations. As you progress through the book, you'll build upon the foundations laid in Chapter 1 and begin developing your own Visual Basic applications.